

What is claimed is:

1. A recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid encoding a mammalian SNORF68 receptor, wherein the mammalian receptor-encoding nucleic acid hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a nucleic acid encoding a human SNORF68 receptor and having a sequence identical to the sequence of the human SNORF68 receptor-encoding nucleic acid contained in plasmid pEXJ.T3T7-hSNORF68-f (Patent Deposit Designation No. PTA_____.).
2. A recombinant nucleic acid comprising a nucleic acid encoding a human SNORF68 receptor, wherein the human SNORF68 receptor comprises an amino acid sequence identical to the sequence of the human SNORF68 receptor encoded by the shortest open reading frame indicated in Figures 1A-1C (SEQ ID NO: 1).